

## WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY MORNING, SEPT. 2, 1858.

## Business Notice.

As the business of the Union establishment, in view of the proposed change in its terms, will be conducted strictly on a cash basis, all agencies for the collection of subscriptions for the Union are discontinued. No payments should be made to Agents after this date, except to Mr. W. C. Upson, Jr., who is authorized to make collections in Baltimore, Maryland, and Virginia, until September 10, 1858.

The foregoing notice is not intended to exclude any agents or collectors who may have been employed by the Union in this city, but those only who have performed such service in other parts of the country. Ag 29-47

## THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER AND THE PUBLIC EXPENDITURES.

If the most prodigal and abandoned man in this city had taken a public position in the market place and commenced a discourse on the beauties of virtue and the horrors of vice, it would not have been a greater cause for astonishment than the sensibility of the *Intelligencer* at the expenditures of the public money as displayed in the issue of that paper on Saturday last. If any one journal in this country has exhibited a more indiscriminating zeal in advocating schemes and policies involving an extravagant expenditure, that journal is the *National Intelligencer*. It is not so much in its positive advocacy, but in its systematic neglect to oppose and propose distributions of the public funds, that it has rendered itself conspicuous, no matter by what man, or set of men, the policy may have been initiated. Its proprietors have been the recipients of more money from the general treasury than any other men in the United States, and, save and except the solitary case to which we have referred, we never have before known of their raising their voice for that economy for which the democratic party have long been contending, or in opposition to that extravagance against which the same organization has been continually protesting. But it is not our desire to rebuke our neighbors for the change which seems to have come over them. We are rejoiced that their eyes have been opened, and we trust in future that the democratic party will have their active co-operation in any and all efforts to stop the leaks which unwise and uncalculated legislation has created in the treasury. We trust their repentance is genuine, and that their conversion will prove permanent. If they and the political sentiment which they represent can exercise their usual influence with their political friends on this subject to do what is right that they have heretofore exerted in promoting or tolerating what was wrong, we shall be inspired with more hope for the welfare and prosperity of the finances than we have derived from any other circumstance that has taken place during the past thirty years of our national history. The *National Intelligencer* in favor of an economical expenditure of the public money! We know it will be hard to believe, but we have read it in their issue of the 28th ultimo, and most heartily do we congratulate the country that such is the fact.

We might fill our columns, for many issues, with recitals of the extravagant schemes and measures upon which our neighbors have advocated the most profuse and the most needless and useless expenditure of public moneys. Witness the grand national system of internal improvements by the general government of which they were so many years the leading editorial champions. The national turnpike which runs hence, through Cumberland, the Lord knows where in the Northwest, which has become as obsolete and neglected as the old stage-coaches which used to be run upon it at so much risk of limb and life, and upon which six or eight millions of federal treasure were expended, is a conspicuous instance of the extravagance and folly for which the name of the *National Intelligencer* is but a synonyme in the public recollection. The Chesapeake and Ohio canal, a work with a very ambitious name but most humiliating financial history, and which we suppose has cost the country ten or twelve millions of dollars, furnishes another sample of the system of expenditure of which the *Intelligencer* has been the infatuated and unflagging champion from time immemorial in spite of railroads, telegraphs, and steam.

Coming nearer home, we might enumerate large sums of money that have been voted by Congress directly into the exchequer of the *National Intelligencer* establishment; in which votes, leading and influential democrats have participated out of a generous consideration for a journal they esteemed as an elevated and dignified foe; but we will not go into the subject, for these matters belong to the amenities of politics of which our neighbors seem to have taken final leave, so far as the democratic party is concerned, in its paper of Saturday. Those of our democrats who have been heretofore induced to vote with the opposition to sustain the *National Intelligencer*, in this manner, should be taught a lesson in the future, that they may not wound the sensibility of Messrs. Crittenden, Trumbull, and the *National Intelligencer*, in wasting the public money and violating the public justice. The country may know, too, how to estimate the sincerity of those who now preach economy, but who never knew anything of it from practice, and who will form any coalition to get possession of the treasury. They may, however, yet do a great deal of good, if they will second the struggling efforts of the Democratic party to bring about reform in the expenditures in every department of the government. If Messrs. Trumbull and Crittenden will co-operate with such men as Messrs. Toombs, Hunter, Clay, and others of the democratic members of the Senate, and will influence their friends of the House to join such men as Messrs. Letcher, Burnett, and others of that kind in this glorious work, we shall have no cause for alarm or concern at the periodical diminution of the receipts from customs; we shall have no necessity for imposing additional taxes upon the people, and we shall be a much happier and more prosperous community, because our representatives will have administered the government for the general good, without reference to particular and partisan favorites.

HON. JOHN M. DANIEL, MINISTER OF THE UNITED STATES AT TURIN.

It has been announced in the Virginia papers that this gentleman had determined to retire from his present position, and to resume his connection with the press in Richmond. The announcement is confirmed by the fact that an application from him for recall is pending before the Secretary of State. A previous application for a leave of absence has been granted.

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF THE GREAT WEST—GOLD ON THIS SIDE OF THE MOUNTAINS.

The reports from Leavenworth of gold discoveries and washings at Pike Peak, on the road from that city to Santa Fe, afford us a suitable occasion to repeat a suggestion we made a few weeks ago, that the discoveries of the precious deposits would not be confined to the Pacific slope. We do not care to question the accuracy of the Leavenworth statements, nor do we feel much interest in their truth or falsity. What we have to say is that gold deposits on this continent have been found within given lines of latitude, extending from ocean to ocean. The districts lying on the Atlantic, extending from Virginia into upper Georgia, and on the Pacific, embracing especially the California region, have been minutely explored and worked. The intermediate territory of New Mexico has been also more or less examined, and all reports concur in the fact that extensive mineral deposits abound in that country. Sufficient indications and facts are seen to convey the impression that the great gold belt of the continent stretches directly across from California to the Atlantic. Nor do the Fraser river discoveries militate against this theory. Gold has been found also in Vermont and further north, in Canada, and in various other northern regions to the east of the mountains. Within the latitudes embracing the great California deposits, and extending eastward to the Atlantic, the vast intermediate country, not even excepting New Mexico, remains almost wholly unexplored. All travellers who have frequented this country concur in the opinion that it promises to be one of the richest mineral deposits in the world. It is a remarkable fact that the silver deposits commence in Arizona and Sonora, on the Pacific, and extend eastward through Northern and New Mexico. These deposits seem to run out within the countries last named; at least, we have no data which indicate their existence on the Atlantic coast.

We have made these observations not, of course, on the testimony of any minute geological survey, nor with a view of asserting the existence, in point of fact, of a gold belt extending across the continent within the latitudes named. Nothing is known of a definite character of the country beyond what has been developed, accidentally or incidentally, by persons engaged in other than gold pursuits. Enough, however, has been reported to excite great interest in the region described, and to offer to scientific men promises of rich rewards for any investigations they may undertake in the premises.

It is a noteworthy feature of American life, that nearly all important discoveries in the science of geology, for a few years past, have been made by a class of men who have little or no accurate knowledge of the geological structure of the earth. Private enterprise, in the eager pursuit of gain, has penetrated nearly every region of our great country, and has unfolded and published to the world its vast mineral resources; while strictly scientific attainments have been content to confine their labors to those regions easiest of access and promising only the developments of general laws. And we have no doubt but the future will also show that individual energy and objects will be equal to the work of developing the resources of the country to which we have referred.

The American people are most remarkable for their energy; and they evidently trust to that feature of life as the means for unfolding those fields for its profitable exercise, giving themselves no trouble about anything beyond the question of immediate profits. With such data as exist and are well known to all, indicating the deposits of valuable mineral within our own borders, there is no other country on the globe which would remain unexplored for a single year. This fact reflects little credit upon our geological science; and compels us to trust to accidents for what in any other State would result from the explorations of those men who are educated to understand and proclaim the great features of the earth we inhabit.

We are compelled, indeed, to rely upon the private enterprise of the country—upon those who have the very best means and who resort to the woods in the hope of gain—for the development of our resources and to bring them to the uses of the human family. The most interesting feature of American life—in fact, the most interesting events in the history of the human family—are to be found in the quick occupation of the interior of our great country and its transformation into high states of civilization, production, and comfort to man. What has been done on the Plain of the Lakes and throughout the valleys of the Mississippi and Missouri, by say nothing of California and Oregon, are the greatest wonders which have ever been enacted in the history of the race. They point with equal force to the past and to the future. They tell us that within the last quarter of a century a great Empire of Industry has been built up, perfect in all its parts, successful in all its departments, and wonderful in all its achievements. What, then, is to be the future of the West, now that we can look back upon what the present generation has accomplished for themselves and their children? Half the continent has been explored, occupied, and cultivated. Our frontier limits are being extended a hundred miles each year. Mineral wealth is being unfolded, increasing compensation for labor and widening the field of universal employment. We may, then, well trust the great interior to the explorations of the frontiersmen, and it would be wise, at least, not to be too incredulous of what it will produce.

STUMP CANVASSING FOR THE FEDERAL SENATE.

We can imagine no greater breach of senatorial dignity, and no practice more flagrantly at war with the genius of our government, than the one pursued in Illinois of stump canvassing for the Senate of the United States. The practice was inaugurated by JAMES H. LANE in Kansas, who stumped the State to secure the election of men, not with reference to their fitness as legislators, but such as would pledge themselves to vote for him as senator. The tactics of Lane have been borrowed by Douglas and Lincoln for Illinois, but it is an example which we think would be more honored in the breach than in the observance. The constitution makes it the duty of the States, in their capacity as States, to choose their ambassadors to the federal Senate; while it devolves upon the people, directly, the choice of their representatives in the popular branch of Congress. One of the most valuable features of our government is that of a dual Congress, com-

posed, one branch, of representatives of States, and of representatives of the people. It confounds this distinction and destroys this important feature of our constitution, for senators to canvass a different constituency for election from that pointed out by the constitution.

The legislature of a State should be allowed the largest range of selection from which to choose its delegation in the Senate of the Union; and it not only argues a most insufferable arrogance when self-constituted candidates mount the stump to urge their exclusive personal pretensions to an office which a hundred other citizens more modest may be better qualified to fill and to adorn; but it operates to forestall the legislature in the judicious and unbiased discharge of its constitutional function of choosing senators.

The disgraceful character of the canvass in Illinois, so far from proving Mr. Douglas and Mr. Lincoln to be the two men in the State most worthy, as they have the vanity to think, of the senatorial emprise, has demonstrated conclusively that they are the two men least worthy of the honor. The selection of some third citizen who has not been guilty of the indecencies of this canvass, or of the disreputable vituperation which has disgraced its progress, would seem to be demanded, not less by the great interests of Illinois committed to her senators than as a vindication of the constitution from the outrage it has received in this novel and vicious procedure.

The Norfolk (Va.) Argus has some judicious remarks on this subject which we append:

"The whole country is disgusted with the scene now exhibited in the State of Illinois.

"As the United States Senate was to be the grand conservator of our Constitution, the constitution wisely ordained that its members should not be elected by popular vote, but should be chosen by the legislatures of the respective States. The paramount object of this provision was to place the selection of a senator beyond the reach of the maddening issues of the hour to which the members of the lower house were exposed. But the spirit of the constitution is now being violated in Illinois.

"An election for members of the legislature, is about to come off, and the most malignant and reckless contest which ever disgraced the annals of American history is now going on for the senatorship. The lie has been passed, and ere long we expect the telegraph will tell us of a pugilistic encounter between two grave senators, or a senator and the aspirant for his honors.

"In the earlier days of our republic such a piece of belated effrontery and impudence would have met with its merited rebuke, but in these days of demagoguery and office seeking it is thought nothing of, a political party applauds the man who openly seeks, in violation of the constitution, an election for an office to be filled by the legislature yet to be elected by the people. How the sensible men of the opposition stand this we cannot comprehend."

A QUESTION PRESENTED IN A PRACTICAL SHAPE.—We transfer to our columns to-day an interesting article from the Charleston Mercury in reference to the cargo of Africans just landed in that city. The Mercury has before it a very pretty type of the foreign slave trade; and we shall expect to hear that the advocates of that interesting commerce will repair at once to Charleston for the purpose of inhaling the delightful odors of a slave ship, and become acquainted with the workings of the human mind before it takes its departure on the great voyage of civilization. We have seen a slave ship full freighted with nearly four hundred passengers; and we have now, consequently, no earthly curiosity to be in Charleston on the present occasion. The poor wretches, we have no doubt, in spite of all the care that can be, and will be, bestowed upon them by the kindly and humane people of Charleston, will most of them die. There are no nurses such as they have in Cuba, who understand their peculiar wants, and know how to meet all their social necessities. Raw Africans in the United States is something new indeed. They should have been taken to Boston, as there they could have enjoyed the hospitality and social position of the abolitionists. At least, they would have had a grand feast, and been permitted afterwards to starve and freeze to death by scores. It will be inferred from this, perhaps, that we entertain no very exalted opinion of the abolitionists. We only mean to say that we should much regret to trust a very large amount of humanity to their good keeping.

Since one of our vessels-of-war has performed on the coast of Cuba the feat of actually seizing a slave cargo, and has lodged them in one of our own ports, we shall now expect the British government to announce in the House of Commons the triumph of its cause in withdrawing its Cuban fleet, thus leaving our naval force to look after slavers instead of British cruisers. Meanwhile, it is a study what disposition is to be made of the poor negroes? They are averse to going back to Africa, it seems, preferring doubtless the kindly sympathies bestowed upon them to the chances of a second capture and voyage to Cuba. This is a free country, but we presume not quite free enough to admit such a population to the benefits of our institutions. We suggest that the Massachusetts legislature should be called together, and a law passed inviting them to the old Commonwealth.

THE CABLE—IS IT OPEN?

It has been generally understood that the Atlantic cable would be open to the public use on the 1st of September, and, in anticipation of that event, the demonstrations and illuminations in this country were fixed for that day. For some cause not explained here, this anticipation has not been realized. Our columns contain this morning a despatch purporting to have been sent from London yesterday, announcing to Mr. Field that the English directors of the Telegraph Company were on their way to Valencia to make arrangements for opening the wire to the public. What these arrangements are we are left to surmise; for we cannot imagine any other arrangement to be necessary than for the directors to give notice to the public that the line is open, and to order the operators to forward all the despatches offered. The operators at Trinity Bay, we judge from what has occurred heretofore, are John Bulls of the most intense description, and destined to furnish to the American public any explanations of the difficulties experienced in the working of the cable. It is true the cable is private property, but we think something is due to the public, especially as our government has spent the round sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars towards its success, and that a frank explanation would relieve the Directors from easily-excited imputations, and satisfy all that no unnecessary delay had occurred in opening it to the public use. The press is anxious to avail itself of these new facilities for procuring intelligence, and if an unimportant despatch can be forwarded, we can conceive of no obstacle to the transmission of a news telegram of equal length. The first of Septem-

ber has past, but the cable is not yet opened to the public use. Is it devoted to the purpose of private speculation is another question.

## DOUGLAS AND LINCOLN AT FREEPORT.

The second meeting of Douglas and Lincoln occurred at Freeport, Illinois, on Friday, the 27th ultimo. The Chicago papers contain full reports of the speeches made by each on the occasion. At the Ottawa meeting, Mr. Douglas spoke an hour, Mr. Lincoln followed for an hour and a half, and Mr. Douglas returned for half an hour. At Freeport the order was reversed, and Mr. Lincoln led off. The papers friendly to each agree in estimating the crowd present at fifteen thousand, but differ materially as to the party triumphant in the discussion. Thus—the Chicago Times heads its account of the discussion with such display lines as these: "Lincoln on pledges—Lincoln ain't pledged to anything—Lincoln asks questions—Lincoln gets answered—A leak takes place—The lion frightens the dog—Lincoln gets weak—Lincoln a fountain!" On the other hand, the Press and Tribune indulges in announcements of this sort: "The Dred Scott champion trotted out—Great cavorting in on the Ottawa forgers—He was conscientious about it—Why Chase's amendment was voted down—Lincoln tumbles him all over Stephenson county"—and so on. The friends of each seem to have received their respective champions with great demonstrations of enthusiasm.

## A NEW DAILY AT HARRISBURG.

We received last evening the first number of the "Patriot and Union," a new democratic daily paper just commenced at the capital of Pennsylvania. It is published and owned by O. Barrett & Co., and edited by R. J. Haldeeman, esq. We believe the present publication is the result of a combination between the Weekly Patriot and Union and the Keystone, another Weekly—both democratic journals, devoted to the promotion of the same interests. The number of the Daily before us presents a handsome appearance, and its contents are varied and attractive, making up an exceedingly good paper. Mr. Haldeeman, to whom the editorial management is intrusted, is known as an able writer, and he will doubtless sustain on the Daily the reputation he has acquired as conductor of the Weekly. The following paragraph we take from his salutary:

"Politically, the Daily Patriot and Union will be an independent democratic journal, bound to no faction, and having no other object than the welfare of the democratic party and the perpetuity of its organization. To the national and State administrations our most earnest support will be given, so long as they continue, and their conduct guarantees, to uphold the principles of the democratic party."

## DEATH OF REV. ELEAZAR WILLIAMS.

We are informed that the Rev. Eleazar Williams, more generally known perhaps as claiming to be the Dauphin of France, deceased at Hogsback, New York, at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 28th August. He last words were: "Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, and receive my spirit." For some time back, we have observed in our exchanges announcement of his indisposition, which it seems has resulted fatally.

## NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Lord Napier at the Celebration.—New York, Sept. 1.—It is understood that Lord Napier will return to Washington on Saturday morning. He will dine on Friday evening with Cyrus W. Field, in company with Captain Dayman, of the Gorgon, and other British officers attached to the telegraph squadron, together with a few select friends of Mr. Field.

Lord Napier is in attendance at the celebration to-day, and will be one of the guests of the city at the dinner to-morrow evening at the Metropolitan Hotel.

The Atlantic Cable.—London, Sept. 1.—To Cyrus W. Field, New York: The directors are on their way to Valencia to make arrangements for opening the wire to the public. They convey, through the cable, to you and your fellow-citizens, their hearty congratulations in your glorious celebration of the great international work.

[This despatch was intended for the Washington committee on the cable celebration.—R.]

Cable Celebrations.—Augusta, Sept. 1.—Our city is alive with a pleasing excitement. Bonfires are blazing, and bands are playing at different points.

Philadelphia, Sept. 1.—The demonstrations here and in New York are of a most impressive and exciting character. There was a grand procession, this noon, in Independence Square, with prayer, and an eloquent oration by Hon. William D. Kelly. There were also three parades, viz: military, civic, and firemen's.

Detection of the Mails.—Baltimore, Sept. 1.—The mail train from New York did not reach here this morning in time to connect with the southern train. The cause of the detention is as yet unknown.

The freight train from Wheeling, when near this city this morning, was thrown from the track, detaining the early southern train for several hours. There was no serious injury done to the freight train.

Death of Dr. Harney.—New Orleans, Aug. 30.—Dr. Harney, of the United States Army, and a brother of Gen. Harney, died at Baton Rouge on Sunday.

New Gold Discoveries.—St. Louis, September 1.—The Republican publishes a letter giving an account of a new gold discovery on the Missouri river. The writer has examined the country for several miles around, and expresses the opinion that five to six dollars per day can be obtained by several hundred men, without further discoveries.

Free Negroes Wanted in Hayti.—St. Louis, Sept. 1.—Three prominent Haytiens, the object of whose presence in this country is to induce free negroes to emigrate to Hayti, have arrived in this city.

The Slave Cargo.—Charleston, Sept. 1.—The Mercury contains the opinion of the attorney general of South Carolina, that the Africans should be retained by the United States marshal, not subject to the laws of this State.

## GOVERNOR MEDARY.

We had the pleasure of meeting Governor Medary yesterday. The stalwart gentleman has returned from his western trip in fine health and the best of spirits. The Indians are now tolerably quiet, but not to be relied upon. This year the buffalo came right down to the western settlements in what will be disastrous after it is organized. We should suppose that the discovery of the gold mines on Fraser river, and the adoption of the route through that section by the Hudson's Bay Company's traders, will add to the importance of that region. It will doubtless be organized as a Territory at an early day.

## OVERLAND MAIL TO CALIFORNIA.

[From the Missouri Republican, Aug. 30.]

We were pleased yesterday to meet with Mr. Butterfield, one of the active partners in the contract for carrying the overland mail between the Mississippi river (Memphis and St. Louis being the two points) and San Francisco, California. He is here to complete his arrangements for putting the contract into operation by the 15th September. For this purpose, the line has been stocked with horses, coaches, drivers, and everything necessary to enable the company to perform the contract with fidelity. The mail is to be carried in twenty-five days, and from the southwest branch of the Pacific Railroad is completed to the western boundary of this State, it will be done in much less time. The route from Memphis and that from St. Louis connects at Fort Smith, Ark., and we have no fear of being able to attract our portion of the trade and travel on this route from the start.

Gov. King has been burned in effigy, in Cattaraugus county, for commuting the sentence of the murderer Sullivan to imprisonment for life. Judge Grover, who sustained the Governor, was complimented in a similar manner.

## COLLISION ON THE NEW JERSEY RAILROAD.

[From the New York Herald, Sept. 1.]

A collision occurred yesterday, about one o'clock, just beyond Rahway, on the New Jersey road, which narrowly escaped being a serious calamity, between the ten o'clock a. m. train from Philadelphia and the twelve o'clock accommodation train from Jersey city, in consequence of the Philadelphia train being behind time. The accommodation train arrived at Rahway at the usual time, and did not meet the other train, remained ten minutes after the required time, and then proceeded, having by the rules of the road the right of way. The Philadelphia train was endeavoring to make the Metuchen turnout, when in rounding a curve the locomotives came in collision. One of the locomotives reared up and was thrown partly off the track. Both trains came to a sudden standstill, and notwithstanding the shock was quite severe, the sides remained unbroken, and the passengers escaped injury, with the exception of a frightened passenger, who jumped out and received some slight bruises. The engines are said not to be materially damaged. The Philadelphia passengers arrived at Jersey city between 5 and 6 o'clock last evening.

The 4 o'clock p. m. train out arrived at New Brunswick two hours and forty minutes behind time, and the 6 o'clock train two hours late.

The Philadelphia train due at 9 p. m. at Jersey city last evening was detained two hours at New Brunswick, waiting for the locomotive of the 8 o'clock train to bring them in.

## THE COMET IN SEPTEMBER.

Mr. William C. Bond, director of the Observatory of Harvard College, publishes in the Boston Traveller the following communication respecting the comet, the reappearance of which in the latter part of September, after its conjunction with the sun, will be carefully observed. It seems probable that at its reappearance it will be a more conspicuous object than whilst approaching its perihelion:

HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY, AUGUST 28, 1858.

The comet discovered by Donati, at Florence, on the 2d of June, and now visible in the constellation of Leo Minor, has been frequently observed at Cambridge. Its geometric path has been very unfavorable for the investigation of its orbit. This circumstance has greatly troubled the European astronomers, as well as our Philadelphians, who have been computing at the Observatory of Harvard College—two parabolic curves by Messrs. Charles Tuttle and Asaph Hall, and two elliptic orbits by Mr. G. P. Bond, whose latest elements indicate that the comet will be seen much brighter and in a better position than at present during the latter part of September. The period of thirty-two years which has been obtained also indicates a possible identity with the first comet of 1827, the elements of which have in other respects a considerable resemblance. W. C. B.

## FIRE IN CINCINNATI—GALLANT CONDUCT.

On Sunday night last a fire was discovered in the cellar of the drugstore of Dr. Harris, at the corner of Main and Fourth streets, Cincinnati. The third story of the building was occupied by Mr. Richard Duncan, periodical dealer. When the engines and hook and ladder carriages arrived, Mrs. Duncan was seen at the window imploring aid for herself and children, and apparently about to leap to the ground. Those assembled about her to keep back and about the window, which she did. In a few minutes, indeed, a ladder was run up, and Policeman George Carr, a noble fellow and brave officer, ventured up the ladder and into the room at the risk of his life. Water was freely played on, and he soon appeared bearing Mrs. Duncan. As she was safely brought down, the pent up feelings of Mrs. Harris gave full vent in a deluge of words. George ventured in again and brought out a child, which was passed down. A third time he entered and brought out the remaining child. Each time he appeared with his precious human freight the crowd gave him hearty cheers. Mrs. Duncan and the children were nearly suffocated. Carr himself was seriously affected, and had to be conveyed to a drug store, where everything possible was done for his relief.

The loss was estimated at about seven thousand dollars, on which there was an insurance of five thousand dollars. The flames were subdued before they had got fairly under way above the cellar, but there was considerable damage by water.

## THE LAST INTERVIEW BETWEEN BENTON AND BUCHANAN.

An effort having been made by the two Blairs to create the impression that Mr. Benton, on his death-bed, had expressed a strong disapprobation of the policy of Mr. Buchanan's administration, Mr. Jacob, one of the cronies of Mr. Benton, gave the following statement of what occurred between those venerable statesmen a short time before the death of Mr. Benton, which puts at rest the fabrication:

He took the President's hand in his, and said, in clear tones, "Buchanan, we are friends; we have differed on many points, as you well know, but I always trusted in your integrity of purpose. I supported you in preference to Fremont, because I believed a solid party, whose success would have been the signal for disunion. I have known you long, and I knew you would honestly endeavor to do right. I have that faith in you now, but you must look to a Higher Power to support and guide you. We will soon meet in another world; I am going now, you will see follow. My peace with God is made; my earthly affairs arranged; but I could not go without seeing you, and thanking you for your interest in my child." Much more was said that is too sacred to repeat. Colonel Benton was much exhausted, and Mr. Buchanan frequently urged him to spare himself. Mr. Buchanan remarked to members of the family, "I am not a man of words, but I am a man of action. When Mr. Jacob returned to his father's room, he called her to him and said: "My child, you are a witness of what has passed this evening; think of it and remember it. I am glad Buchanan came; all is peace with me, and I can rest."

BREAK OF THE LIGHTNING.—The Mt. Vernon (Ohio) Banner states that on Friday last week the lightning struck the big brick office of the place, and completely illuminated the building. Mr. White, the operator, had previously separated the wire connecting with the recording instrument, which saved it from destruction; but the wire forming the negative battery, running to the ground, communicated the subtle fluid to the key, a portion of which was melted. Fortunately, Mr. White stepped out of the office during the storm, otherwise he might have been killed.

THE HERMON MEDAL.—The medal ordered to be prepared by the Virginia Legislature in honor of the late Captain Herndon, of the ill-fated steamship Central America, and to be presented to his widow, has been finished. From a description of it in the Richmond Enquirer we copy the following:

"The Herndon medal is of pure gold, about two inches in diameter. On one side is depicted in bold relief the scene of the tempest, the life-boat crowded with passengers and struggling with the waves, the steamer half dismantled, and the heroic commander standing resolutely on an elevated part of the wreck. The necessarily small scale of the picture does not admit of any strict accuracy in the depiction of the human figures, but, like the beautiful symbolic engravings from the antique, it is sufficiently distinct to relate in an unmistakable form the now well-known story of the Christian hero's self-sacrificing devotion. Around this device are inscribed the following words: 'Devotion to duty, Christian conduct, and genuine heroism respected and revered.' The reverse of the medal bears the following inscription, surrounded by a delicate olive wreath, wrought with exquisite finish and minuteness: 'Presented to the widow of Capt. William Herndon, United States navy, by Virginia, as a testimonial of respect for her virtuous son, a noble and gallant officer. 1858.'"

A trial of steam fire engines took place in Boston on the 31st. There were four steam engines present, the "Philadelphia," built by Reany, Nease, & Co., of Philadelphia; the "Elisha Smith," of East Boston; the "Lawrence," of Lawrence, Mass.; and the "New Era," of Boston.

The Philadelphia filled the tank, containing 2,600 gallons, in 8 minutes and 29 seconds, threw a horizontal stream of 163, a perpendicular stream of 110 feet, and raised steam in 11 minutes.

The Elisha Smith filled the tank in 8 minutes and 25 seconds, threw a horizontal stream of 140 feet, a perpendicular stream of 125 feet, and raised steam in 13 minutes and 51 seconds.

The Lawrence was withdrawn on account of breaking a small bolt soon after firing up.

The Independence Belge states that a young lady, living in Hanover, has just been sentenced by a court of that town to pay a fine of two francs "for having worn a dress which, occupying the whole breadth of the pavement, is an obstruction to the public way."

## POLITICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The democratic State convention of Massachusetts will meet to-day at Worcester to nominate candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, and other State officers.

The democratic convention of the 5th congressional district of Ohio, which nominated Hon. Wm. Munger for Congress, adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the platform of principles adopted by the National Convention at Cincinnati is the only authoritative exposition of democratic doctrines, and is unalterable except by a body equal in power and authority with that convention; that in the mean time we will make no new issues, and permit none to be made, as tests of party fidelity; that we will proscribe no democrat, and permit no proscription of democrats because of difference of opinion in relation to the true construction of any article in the creed, but will recognize all men as democrats, and none other, who remain in the organization and abide the usages of the party."

The Van Wert Constitution says of the nominee:

"Mr. Munger is a man well qualified in every respect to fill the office for which he is nominated, and will be elected; a man of indomitable energy, iron will, and irreproachable integrity. Always sound on the great principles of democracy, he has served with honor in its ranks both in a public and private capacity."

## PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

The chair of Greek in the Lynchburg (Va.) College has been filled by the unanimous appointment of Patrick Henry Cabell, esq., a graduate of Emory and Henry College, Virginia, and for some time assistant Professor of languages at that college. The chair of Mental and Moral Science will in future be filled by Rev. W. W. Walker.

Judge Brockenborough declines the use of his name in connection with the governorship of Virginia. Clement B. Harris, of Culpeper county, is recommended, under the "Examiner" for lieutenant governor.

Col. Cooper, adjutant general of the United States army, left this city yesterday to join the Secretary of War and Gen. Scott at Old Point.

The Secretary of the Navy will shortly make a visit of inspection to the Norfolk navy-yard.

The Attorney General is still among his friends in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Huger was the president of the democratic district convention in old Berks, and not Dr. Hunt, as reported by telegraph.

Hon. S. B. Mallory, of Florida, is in this city, and is stopping at the National Hotel.

## THE ARMY AND NAVY.

Captain W. R. Andrews, U. S. A., a native of Buffalo, died at Little Rock, Arkansas, last week.

It is stated that the court of inquiry recently in session at Norfolk, Virginia, to investigate the circumstances of Lieut. Payne's attempt to commit suicide, has resulted in an order from the department for a court-martial to convene on the 4th of September.

A marine general court-martial is to convene at the navy-yard, Norfolk, on the 24th September—viz: Captain J. T. Doughty, First Lieutenant and Brevet Captain J. D. Simmes; First Lieutenants J. R. D. Fendall, William Stoker Boyd; Second Lieutenants Henry B. Tyler, Jr., William W. Kirkland, and David M. Cohen—for the trial of Second Lieutenant John O. Payne and Sergeant Henry Brennan.

SENATOR INQUIRY TO HON. HENRY M. PHILLIPS.—The Philadelphia Evening Argus, of the 31st ult., informs that taking a ride to the house of Mr. Phillips took right and ran away. Finding it impossible to check the animal, Mr. Phillips leaped from his carriage, striking his head, very seriously bruising both head and face. We are happy to hear that although the injuries he received were severe, they are not considered dangerous.

A Cincinnati gambler, named Samuel Hill, who was going under the soubriquet of "Sam Patch," committed suicide in that city on Thursday evening. The cause of the act is stated to have been his wife. This is a remarkable freak in the life of a gambler.

THE FIRST DEAD HEAD.—Who was the first man recorded in history who didn't pay? said the elder Matthews as he laid a theoretical order to his friend. "Why, really, I never gave it a thought," replied the friend. "Why, Joseph, of course," said Matthews; "did not his brothers put him in the 'pit for nothing'?"

The statement of the operations of the Mint of the United States, at Philadelphia, for the month of August, while taking a ride to the house of Mr. Phillips took right and ran away. Finding it impossible to check the animal, Mr. Phillips leaped from his carriage, striking his head, very seriously bruising both head and face. We are happy to hear that although the injuries he received were severe, they are not considered dangerous.

On Friday evening last a hurricane did much damage at Louisville, blowing down the front of a new building, owned by Miller, Wingate, & Co., corner of Ninth and Jefferson streets; lifting up the metal roof of the warehouse of W. A. Richardson, damaging buildings, and tearing boats from their moorings. Many sheds were torn up by the roots. No lives were lost.

The steamer J. H. Oglesby sunk on the 30th near Glasgow, in the Missouri river. No lives were lost. The boat had a full freight on board, and a large number of passengers. The amount of the loss is unknown.

THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE IN NEW YORK.—The brother of Mrs. Brennan, who has been missing since the 20th of July last, caused the arrest of several drivers of public carriages, and they were examined on Tuesday morning last, but their testimony, so far, fails to throw any light on the subject, and does not criminate any of them. The trial was resumed yesterday morning.

A GREAT VOYAGE.—The whale ship Laurens arrived at New London a few days since, after an absence of only one year, with a cargo of 4,100 barrels of oil. Less than a half and a half month of the time was occupied in whaling or taking oil, the balance of the year having been required to make the passage.

A CHICAGO